

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAO PA 00761 151145Z
ACTION ARA-14

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AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
SECSTATE WASHDC 8366

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 0761

PASS MEPD

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BR
SUBJECT: INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT SALES OPPORTUNITY: SAO PAULO
POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

REF: SAO PAULO 0411

1. SUMMARY: IBRD OFFICIALS INDICATE THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR
FINANCING SAO PAULO POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM WILL BEGIN
SOON, AGREEMENT SIGNED LATER THIS YEAR, AND DISBURSEMENT
TO BEGIN EARLY 1979.

2. CONGEN OFFICERS DISCUSSED PROPOSED LOAN WITH ANDRE J.
CRACCO AND UBALDO AGUIRRE WHO ARE PART OF 6-MAN TEAM IN
SAO PAULO FOR FINAL EVALUATION OF PROJECT. CRACCO AND
AGUIRRE DID NOT GIVE ANY DETAILS ABOUT THE TOTAL AMOUNT
OF LOAN OR IMPORT COMPONENT EXPECTED, STATING IT WAS
TOO EARLY FOR THESE ESTIMATES. THEY DID SAY, HOWEVER,
PROGRAM WOULD NOT COVER 2,000 FIRMS (AS REPORTED IN REFTEL)
BUT ONLY 600 OF THE WORST INDUSTRIAL POLLUTERS AND WILL
BE LIMITED TO THE GREATER SAO PAULO AREA. PROJECT WILL HAVE
THREE COMPONENTS: REMOVAL OF AIRBORNE PARTICULES; PRIMARY
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AND SECONDARY WASTE WATER TREATMENT; AND, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE BADESP-SAO PAULO STATE
DEVELOPMENT BANK (RATHER THAN BANESPA AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED);
AND TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE CETESB. ALSO INVOLVED
IN COORDINATION OF PROJECT WILL BE THE SAO PAULO MUNICIPAL
WATER AUTHORITY, SABESP, BECAUSE OF REQUIREMENT TO INTERFACE
POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM WITH PROJECTED EXPANSION OF THE SAO

PAULO SEWAGE SYSTEM (SAO PAULO 0354). LOAN WILL BE SET UP AS A REVOLVING FUND WITH 3-YEAR COMMITMENT AND 4-YEAR DISBURSEMENT PERIODS.

3. CRACCO AND UBALDO WERE CONFIDENT THAT THE PROJECT WOULD BE APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED. THEY DESCRIBED IT AS AN IMPORTANT PILOT PROJECT FOR THE BANK AND HAS THE PERSONAL INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT MCNAMARA. THE BANK HAS CARRIED OUT ONLY TWO SUCH "CORRECTIVE" POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECTS, BOTH IN EUROPE TO CORRECT PROBLEMS IN SPECIFIC INDUSTRIAL SECTORS. THIS IS THE FIRST SUCH PROJECT WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF CLEARING UP AN ENTIRE URBAN AREA. THE BANK IS PLANNING A COORDINATED APPROACH INVOLVING SEVERAL STATE AND MUNICIPAL AGENCIES, ACTING IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL SECTORS. IF THE PROJECT IS SUCCESSFUL, E. G. THE LOAN IS DISBURSED ON SCHEDULE AND POLLUTION INDICES ARE APPRECIABLY LOWERED, THE BANK WILL ATTEMPT SIMILAR PROGRAMS IN OTHER URBAN AREAS.

4. CONGEN INTENDS TO CONTACT CETESB AGAIN AFTER DEPARTURE OF IBRD MISSION AND HOPES TO HAVE FURTHER DETAILS THEN.
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